



General Assembly

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Fifty-sixth session

Third Committee

Agenda item 119 (b)

**Human rights questions: human rights questions,
including alternative approaches for improving
the effective enjoyment of human rights and
fundamental freedoms**

Afghanistan, Andorra, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, Cape Verde, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Ecuador, Ethiopia, Finland, Georgia, Greece, Guatemala, Hungary, Italy, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Monaco, Netherlands, Norway, Panama, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Romania, Russian Federation, San Marino, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America and Yugoslavia: draft resolution

Effective promotion of the Declaration on the Rights of Persons Belonging to National or Ethnic, Religious and Linguistic Minorities

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 47/135 of 18 December 1992, as well as its subsequent resolutions on the Declaration on the Rights of Persons Belonging to National or Ethnic, Religious and Linguistic Minorities,

Considering that the promotion and protection of the rights of persons belonging to national or ethnic, religious and linguistic minorities contribute to political and social stability and peace and enrich the cultural diversity and heritage of society as a whole in the States in which such persons live,

Concerned by the frequency and severity of disputes and conflicts concerning minorities in many countries and their often tragic consequences, and concerned also that persons belonging to minorities are particularly vulnerable to displacement through, inter alia, population transfers, refugee flows and forced relocation,

Recognizing that the effective promotion and protection of the rights of persons belonging to minorities is a fundamental part of the promotion and



protection of human rights and acknowledging that measures in this area contribute significantly to conflict prevention,

Emphasizing the importance of human rights education as an effective tool to promote understanding of and tolerance towards and among persons belonging to minorities,

Acknowledging that the United Nations has an important role to play regarding the protection of minorities by, inter alia, taking due account of and giving effect to the Declaration,

Noting that the Working Group on Minorities of the Subcommission on the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights of the Commission on Human Rights held its sixth and seventh sessions from 22 to 26 May 2000¹ and 14 to 18 May 2001,² respectively,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;³

2. *Recognizes* that respect for human rights and the promotion of understanding and tolerance by Governments as well as between and among minorities are central to the protection and promotion of the rights of persons belonging to minorities;

3. *Reaffirms* the obligation of States to ensure that persons belonging to minorities may exercise fully and effectively all human rights and fundamental freedoms without any discrimination and in full equality before the law, in accordance with the Declaration on the Rights of Persons Belonging to National or Ethnic, Religious and Linguistic Minorities, and as emphasized at the World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance held at Durban, South Africa, from 31 August to 8 September 2001;

4. *Urges* States and the international community to promote and protect the rights of persons belonging to national or ethnic, religious and linguistic minorities, as set out in the Declaration, including through the provision of adequate education and the facilitation of their participation in all aspects of the political, economic, social, religious and cultural life of society and in the economic progress and development of their country, and to apply a gender perspective while doing so;

5. *Calls upon* States to give special attention to the promotion and protection of the human rights of children, girls as well as boys, belonging to minorities;

6. *Urges* States to take, as appropriate, all necessary constitutional, legislative, administrative and other measures to promote and give effect to the Declaration, and appeals to States to cooperate bilaterally and multilaterally, in accordance with the Declaration, in order to promote and protect the rights of persons belonging to national or ethnic, religious and linguistic minorities;

7. *Calls upon* States to take all appropriate measures to protect cultural and religious sites, places and shrines of national or ethnic, religious and linguistic minorities;

¹ E/CN.4/Sub.2/2000/27 and Corr.1.

² E/CN.4/Sub.2/2001/22.

³ A/56/258.

8. *Calls upon* the Secretary-General to make available, at the request of Governments concerned, qualified expertise on minority issues, including the prevention and resolution of disputes, to assist in existing or potential situations involving minorities;

9. *Calls upon* the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to promote, within her mandate, the implementation of the Declaration and to continue to engage in a dialogue with Governments concerned for that purpose, and welcomes in this regard the issuance of the United Nations Guide for Minorities;

10. *Requests* the High Commissioner to continue her efforts to improve the coordination and cooperation among United Nations programmes and agencies on activities related to the promotion and protection of the rights of persons belonging to minorities and to take the work of relevant regional organizations active in the field of human rights into account in her endeavours;

11. *Welcomes* the inter-agency consultation of the High Commissioner with United Nations programmes and agencies on minority issues, and calls upon those programmes and agencies to contribute actively to this process;

12. *Invites* the human rights treaty bodies, when considering reports submitted by States parties, as well as the reports of special representatives, special rapporteurs and working groups of the Commission on Human Rights, to continue to give attention, within their respective mandates, to situations involving and the rights of persons belonging to national or ethnic, religious and linguistic minorities;

13. *Encourages* intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to continue to contribute to the promotion and protection of the rights of persons belonging to national or ethnic, religious and linguistic minorities;

14. *Calls upon* the Working Group on Minorities of the Subcommission on the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights to implement further its mandate with the involvement of a wide range of participants;

15. *Invites* the High Commissioner to seek voluntary contributions to facilitate the effective participation, including through training seminars, in the work of the Working Group on Minorities of representatives of non-governmental organizations and persons belonging to minorities, in particular those from developing countries;

16. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session on the implementation of the present resolution, and to continue to include examples of good practices in the field of education and of the effective participation of minorities in decision-making processes;

17. *Decides* to continue consideration of this question at its fifty-eighth session, under the item entitled "Human rights questions".



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Andorra, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Canada, Chile, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Ecuador, El Salvador, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Mexico, Monaco, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nigeria, Norway, Panama, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Romania, San Marino, Senegal, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Venezuela and Yugoslavia: draft resolution

**Declaration on the Right and Responsibility of Individuals, Groups
and Organs of Society to Promote and Protect Universally
Recognized Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms**

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 53/144 of 9 December 1998, by which the Assembly adopted, by consensus, the Declaration on the Right and Responsibility of Individuals, Groups and Organs of Society to Promote and Protect Universally Recognized Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms,¹

Reiterating the importance of this Declaration and its promotion and implementation,

Noting with deep concern that, in many countries, persons and organizations engaged in promoting and defending human rights and fundamental freedoms are facing threats, harassment and insecurity as well as misuse of civil and criminal proceedings as a result of those activities,

¹ Resolution 53/144, annex.



Noting also with deep concern the considerable number of communications received by the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on human rights defenders that, together with the reports submitted by some of the special procedure mechanisms, indicate the serious nature of the risks faced by human rights defenders,

Noting further with deep concern that, in a number of countries in all regions of the world, impunity for threats, attacks and acts of intimidation against human rights defenders persists and that this impacts negatively on the work and safety of human rights defenders,

Emphasizing the important role that individuals, non-governmental organizations and groups play in the promotion and protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms, including in combating impunity,

Welcoming the cooperation between the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on human rights defenders and other special procedures of the Commission on Human Rights,

Recalling that the primary responsibility for promoting and protecting human rights rests with the State, and noting with deep concern that the activities of non-State actors pose a major threat to the security of human rights defenders,

Emphasizing the need for strong and effective measures for the protection of human rights defenders,

1. *Calls upon* all States to promote and give full effect to the Declaration on the Right and Responsibility of Individuals, Groups and Organs of Society to Promote and Protect Universally Recognized Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms;¹

2. *Notes with appreciation* the reports of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on human rights defenders;²

3. *Emphasizes* the importance of combating impunity, and, in this regard, urges States to take appropriate measures to address the question of impunity for threats, attacks and acts of intimidation against human rights defenders;

4. *Urges* all Governments to cooperate with and assist the Special Representative in the performance of her tasks and to furnish all information in the fulfilment of her mandate upon request;

5. *Requests* all concerned United Nations agencies and organizations, within their mandates, to provide all possible assistance and support to the Special Representative in the implementation of her programme of activities;

6. *Calls upon* all States to take all necessary measures to ensure the protection of human rights defenders;

7. *Decides* to consider this question at its fifty-seventh session, under the item entitled "Human rights questions".

¹ A/56/341 and E/CN.4/2001/94.



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Protection of and assistance to internally displaced persons

Deeply disturbed by the alarmingly high numbers of internally displaced persons throughout the world who receive inadequate protection and assistance, and conscious of the serious problem this is creating for the international community,

Conscious of the human rights and the humanitarian dimensions of the problem of internally displaced persons and the responsibilities this poses for States and the international community to explore methods and means better to address their protection and assistance needs,

Noting the growing awareness of the international community of the issue of internally displaced persons worldwide and of the urgency of addressing the root causes of their displacement and of finding durable solutions, including voluntary return in safety and with dignity or local integration,

Emphasizing that national authorities have the primary responsibility to provide protection and assistance to internally displaced persons within their jurisdiction as well as to address the root causes for the displacement problem in cooperation with the international community,



Recalling the relevant norms of international human rights law, international humanitarian law and analogous refugee law, and recognizing that the protection of internally displaced persons has been strengthened by identifying, reaffirming and consolidating specific standards for their protection, in particular through the Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement,¹

Recalling also Commission on Human Rights resolution 2001/54 of 24 April 2001,² as well as the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action, adopted by the World Conference on Human Rights on 25 June 1993,³ regarding the need to develop global strategies to address the problem of internal displacement,

Deploing practices of forced displacement and their negative consequences for the enjoyment of fundamental human rights by large groups of populations,

Noting with appreciation the work of the Representative of the Secretary-General in developing a normative framework, in particular a compilation and analysis of legal norms and the development of guiding principles analysing institutional arrangements, undertaking dialogue with Governments and issuing a series of reports on particular country situations together with proposals for remedial measures,

Welcoming the cooperation established between the Representative of the Secretary-General and the United Nations and other international and regional organizations, in particular the participation of the Representative of the Secretary-General in the meetings of the Inter-Agency Standing Committee and its subsidiary bodies, and encouraging further strengthening of this collaboration in order to promote better assistance, protection and development strategies for internally displaced persons,

Recognizing the central role of the Emergency Relief Coordinator for the inter-agency coordination of protection of and assistance to internally displaced persons and in this regard, welcoming the establishment of the Senior Inter-Agency Network on Internal Displacement and the decision to set up within the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs of the Secretariat a unit for coordinating activities regarding internally displaced persons in order better to promote assistance, protection and development strategies for internally displaced persons, as well as to enhance further accountability by the United Nations system,

Acknowledging with appreciation the independent coordination within, as well as the independent work of, the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement and other humanitarian agencies in protecting and assisting internally displaced persons, in cooperation with relevant international bodies,

Recalling its resolution 54/167 of 17 December 1999,

1. *Welcomes* the report of the Representative of the Secretary-General on internally displaced persons;⁴

¹ E/CN.4/1998/53/Add.2, annex.

² *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2001, Supplement No. 3 (E/2001/23)*, chap. II, sect. A.

³ A/CONF.157/24 (Part I), chap. III.

⁴ A/56/168.

2. *Commends* the Representative of the Secretary-General for the activities undertaken so far, for the catalytic role he continues to play in raising the level of consciousness about the plight of internally displaced persons, and for his efforts to promote a comprehensive strategy that focuses on prevention, as well as better protection, assistance and development for internally displaced persons;

3. *Expresses its appreciation* to those Governments and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations that have provided assistance and protection to internally displaced persons and have supported the work of the Representative of the Secretary-General;

4. *Encourages* the Representative of the Secretary-General, through continuous dialogue with Governments and all intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations concerned, to continue his analysis of the causes of internal displacement, the needs and rights of those displaced, measures of prevention and ways to strengthen protection, assistance and solutions for internally displaced persons, taking into account specific situations, and to include information thereon in his reports to the Commission on Human Rights and the General Assembly;

5. *Welcomes* the specific attention paid by the Representative of the Secretary-General to the special assistance, protection and development needs of internally displaced women, children and other groups with specific needs and his commitment to pay more systematic and in-depth attention to their needs;

6. *Also welcomes* the fact that the Representative of the Secretary-General has made use of the Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement in his dialogue with Governments and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, and requests him to continue his efforts in that regard, including considering strategies for addressing such concerns;

7. *Notes with appreciation* that an increasing number of States, United Nations agencies and regional and non-governmental organizations are making use of the Guiding Principles, encourages the further dissemination and application of the Guiding Principles, expresses its appreciation for the dissemination and promotion of the Guiding Principles at regional and other seminars on displacement, and encourages the Representative of the Secretary-General to continue to initiate or support such seminars in consultation with regional organizations, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations and other relevant institutions, and to provide support for efforts to promote capacity-building and use of the Guiding Principles;

8. *Calls upon* all Governments to continue to facilitate the activities of the Representative of the Secretary-General, in particular Governments with situations of internal displacement, encourages them to give serious consideration to inviting the Representative to visit their countries so as to enable him to study and analyse more fully the issues involved, and thanks those Governments that have already done so;

9. *Invites* Governments to give due consideration, in dialogue with the Representative of the Secretary-General, to the recommendations and suggestions addressed to them, in accordance with his mandate, and to inform him of measures taken thereon;

10. *Calls upon* Governments to provide protection and assistance, including reintegration and development assistance, to internally displaced persons, and to facilitate the efforts of relevant United Nations agencies and humanitarian organizations in these respects, including by further improving access to internally displaced persons;

11. *Notes with appreciation* the increased attention paid to the issue of internally displaced persons in the consolidated inter-agency appeals process, and encourages further efforts to improve the integration of the protection and assistance needs of internally displaced persons in consolidated appeals;

12. *Emphasizes* the central role of the Emergency Relief Coordinator for the inter-agency coordination of protection of and assistance to internally displaced persons, and in this regard urges the Senior Inter-Agency Network on Internal Displacement and all relevant United Nations humanitarian assistance, human rights and development organizations concerned to further enhance their collaboration and coordination, especially through the Inter-Agency Standing Committee, in order to promote and better perform protection, assistance and development activities for internally displaced persons and further enhance their accountability, as well as to provide all possible assistance and support to the Representative of the Secretary-General, and invites the Network to better inform Member States of its activities;

13. *Welcomes* the initiatives undertaken by regional organizations, such as the Organization of African Unity, the Organization of American States, the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe, the Council of Europe and the Economic Community of West African States, to address the assistance, protection and development needs of internally displaced persons, and encourages them and other regional organizations to strengthen their activities and their cooperation with the Representative of the Secretary-General;

14. *Also welcomes* the establishment of the global internally displaced persons database,⁵ as advocated by the Representative of the Secretary-General, and encourages the members of the Inter-Agency Standing Committee and Governments to continue to collaborate on and support this effort, including by providing financial resources;

15. *Requests* the Secretary-General to provide his Representative, from within existing resources, with all necessary assistance to carry out his mandate effectively, and encourages the Representative to continue to seek the contribution of States, relevant organizations and institutions in order to put the work of the Representative on a more stable basis;

16. *Requests* the Representative of the Secretary-General to prepare, for consideration by the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session, a report on the implementation of the present resolution;

17. *Decides* to continue its consideration of the question of protection of and assistance to internally displaced persons at its fifty-eighth session.

⁵ <http://www.idpproject.org>.



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Botswana, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, China, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic
Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Egypt, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Ghana, Guyana,
Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar,
Malaysia, Mali, Mauritania, Morocco, Myanmar, Namibia, Niger, Nigeria,
Pakistan, Saint Lucia, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Togo,
Uganda, United Republic of Tanzania, Viet Nam and Zambia: draft resolution**

**Globalization and its impact on the full enjoyment of all
human rights**

The General Assembly,

*Guided by the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations,
and expressing in particular the need to achieve international cooperation in
promoting and encouraging respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms for
all without distinction,*

*Recalling the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,¹ as well as the Vienna
Declaration and Programme of Action adopted by the World Conference on Human
Rights on 25 June 1993,²*

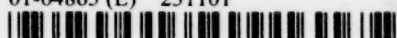
*Recalling also the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights³ and
the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights,³*

*Recalling further the Declaration on the Right to Development adopted by the
General Assembly in its resolution 41/128 of 4 December 1986,*

¹ Resolution 217 A (III).

² A/CONF.157/24 (Part I), chap. III.

³ See resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.



Recalling the United Nations Millennium Declaration⁴ and the outcome documents of the twenty-third⁵ and twenty-fourth⁶ special sessions of the General Assembly, held, respectively, in New York from 5 to 10 June 2000 and Geneva from 26 June to 1 July 2000,

Recalling further its resolution 55/102 of 4 December 2000,

Recognizing that all human rights are universal, indivisible, interdependent and interrelated and that the international community must treat human rights globally in a fair and equal manner, on the same footing and with the same emphasis,

Realizing that globalization affects all countries differently and makes them more exposed to external developments, positive as well as negative, including in the field of human rights,

Realizing also that globalization is not merely an economic process but also has social, political, environmental, cultural and legal dimensions which have an impact on the full enjoyment of all human rights,

Recognizing that multilateral mechanisms have a unique role to play in meeting the challenges and opportunities presented by globalization,

Expressing concern at the negative impact of international financial turbulence on social and economic development and on the full enjoyment of all human rights,

Deeply concerned that the widening gap between the developed and the developing countries, and within countries, has contributed, inter alia, to deepening poverty and has adversely affected the full enjoyment of all human rights, in particular in developing countries,

Noting that human beings strive for a world that is respectful of human rights and cultural diversity and that, in this regard, they work to ensure that all activities, including those affected by globalization, are consistent with those aims,

1. *Recognizes* that, while globalization, by its impact on, inter alia, the role of the State, may affect human rights, the promotion and protection of all human rights is first and foremost the responsibility of the State;

2. *Reaffirms* that narrowing the gap between rich and poor, both within and between countries, is an explicit goal at the national and international levels, as part of the effort to create an enabling environment for the full enjoyment of all human rights;

3. *Reaffirms also* the commitment to create an environment at both the national and global levels that is conducive to development and to the elimination of poverty through, inter alia, good governance within each country and at the international level, transparency in the financial, monetary and trading systems and commitment to an open, equitable, rule-based, predictable and non-discriminatory multilateral trading and financial system;

4. *Recognizes* that, while globalization offers great opportunities, its benefits are very unevenly shared and its costs are unevenly distributed, an aspect of

⁴ See resolution 55/2.

⁵ Resolutions S/23/2, annex, and S-23/3, annex.

⁶ Resolution S-24/2, annex.

the process that affects the full enjoyment of all human rights, in particular in developing countries;

5. *Recognizes also* that, only through broad and sustained efforts, including policies and measures at the global level to create a shared future based upon our common humanity in all its diversity, can globalization be made fully inclusive and equitable and have a human face, thus contributing to the full enjoyment of all human rights;

6. *Affirms* that globalization is a complex process of structural transformation, with numerous interdisciplinary aspects, which has an impact on the enjoyment of civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights, including the right to development;

7. *Affirms also* that the international community should strive to respond to the challenges and opportunities posed by globalization in a manner that ensures respect for the cultural diversity of all;

8. *Underlines*, therefore, the need to continue to analyse the consequences of globalization for the full enjoyment of all human rights;

9. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on globalization and its impact on the full enjoyment of all human rights,⁷ and requests the Secretary-General to further seek the views of Member States and to submit a comprehensive report on this subject to the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session.

⁷ A/56/254 and Add.1.



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Human rights and mass exoduses

The General Assembly,

Deeply disturbed by the scale and magnitude of exoduses and displacements of people in many regions of the world and by the human suffering of refugees and displaced persons, a high proportion of whom are women and children,

Recalling its previous relevant resolutions on this subject, as well as those of the Commission on Human Rights, and the conclusions of the World Conference on Human Rights, held at Vienna from 14 to 25 June 1993,¹ which recognized, inter alia, that gross violations of human rights, persecution, political and ethnic conflicts, famine and economic insecurity, poverty and generalized violence are among the root causes leading to mass exodus and displacements of people,

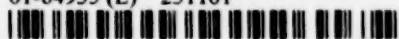
Mindful of the three open debates that have taken place within the Security Council on the protection of civilians in armed conflict and the two reports of the Secretary-General on that subject,²

Welcoming the fiftieth anniversary of the 1951 Convention Relating to the Status of Refugees,³ and noting the continuing relevance of the provisions of the Convention to the situation of people in mass exoduses,

¹ A/CONF.157/24 (Part I), chap. III.

² S/1999/957 and S/2001/331.

³ United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 189, No. 2545.



Welcoming also the process of global consultations on international protection launched by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, and in particular the discussions that took place on the protection of refugees in mass influx situations in March 2001,

Welcoming the increased attention being given by the United Nations, including the Office of the High Commissioner, to the problem of camp security, including through the development of operational guidelines on the separation of armed elements from refugee populations,

Stressing the importance of adherence to international humanitarian, human rights and refugee law in order to avert mass exoduses and to protect refugees and internally displaced persons, and expressing its deep concern at the lack of respect for those laws and principles, especially during armed conflict, including the denial of safe and unimpeded access to the displaced,

Reaffirming the primary responsibility of States to ensure the protection of refugees and internally displaced persons,

Noting with satisfaction the efforts by the United Nations system to develop a comprehensive approach to addressing the root causes and effects of movements of refugees and other displaced persons and the strengthening of emergency preparedness and response mechanisms,

Recognizing that the human rights machinery of the United Nations, including the mechanisms of the Commission on Human Rights and the human rights treaty bodies, has important capabilities to address human rights violations that cause movements of refugees and displaced persons or prevent durable solutions to their plight,

Recognizing the complementarity between the systems for the protection of human rights and for humanitarian action, in particular the mandates of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, as well as the work of the representative of the Secretary-General on internally displaced persons and the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict and that cooperation between them, in accordance with their respective mandates, as well as coordination between the human rights, political and security components of United Nations operations, make important contributions to the promotion and protection of human rights of persons forced into mass exodus and displacement,

Acknowledging with appreciation the coordination within, as well as the independent work of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement in protecting and assisting refugees and internally displaced persons, in cooperation with relevant United Nations bodies,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;⁴
2. *Strongly deplores* ethnic and other forms of intolerance as one of the major causes of forced migratory movements, and urges States to take all necessary steps to ensure respect for human rights, especially the rights of persons belonging to minorities;

⁴ A/56/334.

3. *Reaffirms* the need for all Governments, intergovernmental bodies and relevant international organizations to intensify their cooperation and assistance in worldwide efforts to address human rights situations that lead to, as well as the serious problems that result from, mass exoduses of refugees and displaced persons;

4. *Urges* the Secretary-General to continue to give high priority to the consolidation and strengthening of emergency preparedness and response mechanisms, including early warning activities in the humanitarian area, so that, inter alia, effective action is taken to identify all human rights abuses that contribute to mass exoduses of persons;

5. *Encourages* States that have not already done so to consider acceding to the 1951 Convention³ and the 1967 Protocol⁵ relating to the Status of Refugees and to other relevant regional instruments concerning refugees, as applicable, and relevant international instruments of human rights and humanitarian law, and to take appropriate measures to disseminate and implement those instruments domestically to encourage compliance with provisions against arbitrary and forcible displacement and greater respect for the rights of those who flee;

6. *Emphasizes* the responsibility of all States and international organizations to cooperate with those countries, particularly developing ones, affected by mass exoduses of refugees and displaced persons;

7. *Calls upon* Governments, the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees and other relevant parts of the United Nations system, as well as relevant international and non-governmental organizations, to continue to respond to assistance and protection needs of refugees and other displaced persons worldwide, including to promote durable solutions to their plight;

8. *Urges* States to uphold the civilian and humanitarian character of refugee camps and settlements, consistent with international law, inter alia, through effective measures to prevent the infiltration of armed elements, to identify and separate any such armed elements from refugee populations, to settle refugees at safe locations, where possible away from the border, and to afford prompt and unhindered access to them by humanitarian personnel;

9. *Encourages* the special rapporteurs, special representatives and working groups of the Commission on Human Rights and the United Nations human rights treaty bodies, acting within their mandates, to seek information, where appropriate, on human rights problems that may result in mass exoduses of populations or impede their voluntary return home and, where appropriate, to include such information, together with recommendations thereon, in their reports and to bring such information to the attention of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights for appropriate action in fulfilment of her mandate, in consultation with the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees;

10. *Requests* all United Nations bodies, acting within their mandates, the specialized agencies and governmental, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to cooperate fully with all mechanisms of the Commission on Human Rights and, in particular, to provide them with all relevant information in their

³ United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 606, No. 8791.

possession on the human rights situations creating or affecting refugees and displaced persons;

11. *Requests* the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, in the exercise of her mandate, as set out in General Assembly resolution 48/141 of 20 December 1993, to coordinate human rights activities throughout the United Nations system and, in cooperation with the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, to pay particular attention to situations that cause or threaten to cause mass exoduses or displacements and to contribute to efforts to address such situations effectively and promote sustainable returns through promotion and protection measures, including human rights monitoring of those who fled or returned as part of mass exoduses, emergency preparedness and response mechanisms, early warning and information sharing, technical advice, expertise and cooperation in countries of origin as well as host countries;

12. *Welcomes* the efforts of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to contribute to the creation of an environment viable for return in post-conflict societies through initiatives such as the rehabilitation of the justice system, the creation of national institutions capable of defending human rights and broad-based programmes of human rights education and the strengthening of local non-governmental organizations through field presences and programmes of advisory services and technical cooperation;

13. *Requests* the Secretary-General to prepare and submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution as it pertains to all aspects of human rights and mass exoduses, with particular emphasis on efforts by the United Nations system to enhance the protection of those who become displaced during mass exoduses, and to facilitate their return and reintegration, as well as information on efforts to continue to enhance the capacity of the United Nations to avert new flows of refugees and other displaced persons and to tackle the root causes of such flows;

14. *Decides* to continue its consideration of this question at its fifty-eighth session.
